(b) whether there is any proposal to link them by high power transmission line; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what will be the approximate cost of the proposed line and by when it is expected to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI (a) to (c) A 400KV D/C line having a route length of 178 kms. between Ramagundam and Chandrapur is being constructed by the National Thermal Power Corporation under the Central Transmission Line Project-I. The estimated cost of the transmission line and associated sub-stations is about Rs. 24.70 crores and the line is targeted for completion by January, 1991.

Petro Chemical Project in Tamil Nadu

1500. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up Petro Chemical Industrial Units in industrially backward districts of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) At present no application to set up Petro Chemical Projects in industrially backward districts of Tamil Nadu has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Joint Venture Petrochemical Projects

1501. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 100 per cent export oriented Linde-R.P. Goenka Petrochemical proposals had been cleared by the Central Government;

(b) whether there is a joint collaboration with the West Germany;

(c) if so, what are the main features of the projects; and

(d) at which place the project will be set up and what are the other details of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) A letter of intent was issued on 16.3.89 to M|s. Linde Aktiengesellschaft for the setting up of a naphatha cracker in Madras under the 100 per cent export oriented scheme for the manufacture of 4,50,000 tpa of ethylene and 2,25,000 tpa of propylene etc. This letter of intent is subject to a number of conditions including the following:

"The letter of intent shall be valid for one year within which period you shall submit feasibility report. The viability of the period shall be established including tying up of specific export markets to the satisfaction of the Government within one year of the issue of this letter of intent."

Coal mining project in West Bengal

1502. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have recently received communications from the Government of West Bengal regarding Coal mining projects in Raniganj Coal field area;

(b) if so, when and what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In the communications received in March and April, 1989 the Government of West Bengal have referred to land subsidence and the need for prevention of environmental damage arising out of opencast coal mining in Raniganj Coalfield.

The Ramjibanpur pilot project for controlling subsidence holds promise for application on a larger scale. ECL have initiated action for preparation of an action plan.

The Department of Coal had constituted an Expert Committee for preparation of an Integrated Environmental Management Plan for Raniganj coalfield. The Group has suggested various measures for environmental protection.

Statement of the Chairman, BHEL regarding its capacity utilisation

1503. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to his notice that the Chairman of BHEL, Mr. P. S. Gupta, has made a statement that BHEL will work to only 37 per cent capacity during 1990-91; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) In a Press Conference held by the Chairman and Managing Director, BHEL, on 1.4.1989 highlighting the performance of BHEL during 1988-89, such as, turnover profit, etc. he had also mentioned about the order book position of BHEL in the 8th Plan period based on the orders in hand.

The capacity utilisation of BHEL for the manufacture of power generation equipment is fairly satisfactory during the current year. The capacity utilisation of BHEL for the 8th Plan projects is under constant review by the Government in order to ensure that the manufacturing facilities available with the Company are adequately utilised.

Development of a safety device to guard men and machines from fuel container explosion

1504. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Pune-based company M/s. Firma Exco has developed a safety device to guard men and machines from fuel container explosions that may occur due to cumbustion or fire;

(b) whether the said device can be easily installed inside any fuel container, car petrol tank, aircrafts, gas cyclinders etc., and even in the currently used containers;

(c) whether Government have since going through the functioning of the said device; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d) M/s. Firma Exco India Pvt. Ltd., Pune have been granted foreign collaboration with M/s. Zenith Industrieanlagenbau Ges.m.b.H., Austria for manufacture of explosion control apparatus and filler bodies for combustible fuel in the small scale sector in December 1987. The said device, it is claimed, can either be installed at the time of construction of fuel storage tankers or insertion filled as in motor vehicle fuel tanks. With the use of